

battle for the state championship title. This match was decided decisively with a 37–31 victory for Grace Community School.

Clearly a team does not reach the ultimate and lofty plateau of excellence without coaches who know their players. There is no doubt that each of the individual players, coaches, and supporting personnel involved with the success of the Lady Cougars will benefit from having participated and witnessed the level of success. That success is only achieved when each individual gives all they have, while working together with focused dedication and passion.

This tribute goes out to all of the athletic staff including Athletic Director Joseph Walker; Head Coach Galen Taylor; Assistant Coaches Mark Taylor, Bri Polk and David Robinson; Managers Clara Roberts and Esther Nwachukwu.

The team members achieving this memorable accomplishment include Addie Daughtry, Jo Murray, Jordan Tauscher, Molly Hicks, Stella Thomas, Reagan Wilson, Emily Edwards, Lauren Evans and Lindsey Hudgins.

An athletic team cannot achieve any true level of excellence without unwavering support from its school and its school leaders including Head Administrator Jay Ferguson and High School Principal Brian Benscoter. That is exactly the kind of support the Lady Cougars experienced from the entire community of Tyler and Smith County. That is why congratulations go to all the outstanding family, friends, and fans who contributed to the success of the Lady Cougars during this championship season.

May God continue to bless all of their efforts both in school and as they one day finish high school and use that same drive and determination to make this country even stronger. Congratulations to the TAPPS State Basketball Champions, the Grace Community School Lady Cougars, as their legacy will endure as long as there is a United States of America.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE AND
LEGACY OF DR. DAVID POTTS

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 10, 2018

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and legacy of Judson College President Dr. David Potts of Marion, Alabama. I join with my constituents in mourning the recent passing of Dr. Potts, an exemplary educator, visionary longtime college president of Judson and a beloved member of the Marion community whose life's work influenced so many and helped to shape the advancement of Alabama's Black Belt.

Dr. Potts was born on July 1, 1950 to Louise and Alton Potts, in Birmingham, Alabama. He grew up understanding the importance of a good education. His parents often stressed that a quality education was the key to improving one's lot in life.

As a proud graduate of Ramsey High School, Dr. Potts took his parents' advice to heart, and enrolled at Samford University, in Birmingham, AL, where he earned both a B.A. and M.S. in Education. Dr. Potts went on to enroll in the University of Alabama where he received his Ph.D. in Higher Education.

In 1980, Dr. Potts began his service at Judson College in Marion, Alabama as its Vice President for Development. In this role, he was instrumental in establishing the Adult Degree Program, a non-traditional, external degree program for adult learners that would grow into Judson's Distance Learning Program. Dr. Potts briefly returned to Samford in 1985 to organize and implement "The Samford Commitment," a \$28 million capital campaign, and later rejoined the Judson administration as Executive Vice President for Administration in 1987. In this role, Dr. Potts sought to create a student-centered campus culture driven by continuous improvement, based on research completed for his doctoral dissertation.

In 1990, Dr. Potts was appointed President of Judson College by its Board of Trustees. Dr. Potts left a lasting legacy during his 28-year tenure as President of Judson. The list of his accomplishments at the college was as numerous as the many lives of those he impacted. Dr. Potts grew Judson's endowment from \$2 million to \$19 million dollars and raised \$35 million through capital campaigns for new construction and facility restoration, including the refurbishment of Judson's historic Jewett Hall. Nine new academic programs were added under his leadership, including three of the five largest majors currently pursued by Judson students. Throughout his tenure as president, the college increased the diversity of its faculty and student body and remained faithful to its Christian mission.

In addition to his exceptional service at Judson, Dr. Potts also worked to improve higher education across the Southeast. He served as both a Commissioner and an Executive Council Member for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), the regional body that accredits Judson and hundreds of others colleges and universities in the Southeastern United States. He served as a member or chair of countless SACSCOC on-site review committees, designed to help colleges measure their effectiveness. In 2013, Dr. Potts was honored with the James T. Rogers Distinguished Leadership Award for Outstanding Contributions to Higher Education by SACSCOC in recognition of his lifetime contributions to the field of higher education.

As a committed civic leader, Dr. Potts made enormous contributions to the community. He was a founding board member of Sowing Seeds of Hope, a faith-based, non-profit organization seeking to address the root causes of poverty in Alabama. As a member of Sowing Seeds of Hope's Board of Directors and Health Care Task Force, Dr. Potts helped bring a dialysis center to Marion, promoted programs that helped children gain health insurance coverage, and actively worked toward the re-opening of a hospital in Perry County. He was a former president of Alabama Possible, formerly the Alabama Poverty Project, an organization co-founded by his father, former Alabama Baptist Convention executive secretary A. Earl Potts, which seeks to raise awareness of poverty issues statewide.

In his passing, Dr. Potts is survived by his wife of 44 years, Beth Bloodworth Potts; his daughters, Kristin Potts Helton (John) and Shannon Louise Potts (Phil); eight grandchildren, Gavin, Harper, John David, Laura Beth, Levi, Patch, Ryder, and Teague; and his sister, Elizabeth "Libby" Louise Potts (Dale Peterson).

On a personal note, Dr. Potts made a profound impact on my life and the lives of so many in my district. His passion for education was equal to his love of his community and his deep compassion for mankind. I am forever grateful for his dedication and tireless advocacy on behalf of the people of Alabama's rural Black Belt. In him, I saw a kindred spirit in our shared and unwavering belief in the people of the Black Belt. Despite the many obstacles, Dr. Potts saw the myriad of possibilities and unharnessed potential in the beauty and natural resources that the Black Belt had to offer. Through his dedicated efforts, he has left our community a better place for all and for that he will forever be remembered for his leadership, brilliance, and kindness.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the extraordinary life and legacy of Dr. David Potts. On behalf of the 7th Congressional District, the State of Alabama, and this nation, we pay tribute to his distinguished contributions for the betterment of the State of Alabama, and extend deep appreciation for his exemplary service as President of Judson College.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR DANNY DUNN
OF TEMPLE, TEXAS

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 10, 2018

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today is a special day as we celebrate and recognize the work of an exceptional citizen of our district: Mayor Danny Dunn of Temple, TX. Throughout his life, he has dedicated himself to the residents of his beloved hometown. His commitment to public service represents Texas values at their best.

Mayor Dunn has spent the past eight years devoting himself to make the city of Temple a great place to work and call home. Under his steady and forward-looking leadership, Temple has seen exponential changes, ranging from new public safety initiatives to large improvement projects to restore the city. His commitment to smart, lasting, and strategic development has improved the quality of life for all citizens of Temple and put the city on the track for continued growth in the future.

Mayor Dunn's public service doesn't end at 5 p.m. during the week. He is continuously trying to make Temple a better city by volunteering and working with numerous civic engagement groups such as museum committees, veteran research, and children hospitals. His great work has not gone unnoticed as Mayor Dunn has been the recipient of countless awards and recognition.

While Mayor Dunn has been honored to serve Temple, he knows that everything has its season and that it is time for him to allow the next generation of leaders to take the stage. Retirement from office does not mean that Dunn is finished improving and inspiring the city. He plans on continuing to work, volunteer, and be an active citizen of the city of Temple while pursuing graduate school and spending time with his family.

Mayor Dunn has left big shoes to fill as he has gone above and beyond the expected duties of a public servant. He has led Temple to new heights and positioned his hometown to